



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

**Constitution Week**

**WHEREAS**, September 17, 2012, marks the 225<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Constitution of the United States of America at the Constitutional Convention, providing an historic opportunity for all Americans to remember the achievements of our Founding Fathers and to reflect on the actions of Americans who for the past 225 years have defined the words of the Constitution by exercising their rights and responsibilities as citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, the Constitution is fundamentally predicated on governance by "We the People" making citizens' understanding of the Constitution and its framework an essential element of the future of our country and the civic health of its populace; and

**WHEREAS**, it is fitting and proper to officially recognize this remarkable document and the milestone anniversary of its creation, and the additions to it in the form of 27 amendments; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Constitution Center, America's first and only non-partisan, non-profit institution devoted to the Constitution, located in Philadelphia across from Independence Hall where the Constitution was drafted and signed, is the home of the 225<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the Constitution; and

**WHEREAS**, May 29<sup>th</sup>, 1790 marks the anniversary of Rhode Island's statehood and ratification of the Constitution; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee**, Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, do hereby proclaim the week beginning September 17 and ending September 23, 2012 as Constitution Week in the State of Rhode Island and encourage all residents to recognize the importance of this week.



Given under my hand and the great  
seal of the State of Rhode Island  
and Providence Plantations,  
this 28<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2011

Lincoln D. Chafee  
Governor

A. Ralph Mollis  
Secretary of State